



COUNCILMEMBER DONNA FRYE

CITY OF SAN DIEGO – SIXTH COUNCIL DISTRICT

Press Release

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FRYE ANNOUNCES FINDINGS FROM STUDY OF OLD MISSION BAY LANDFILL

Asks State regulatory agencies to review the report

San Diego, CA- Today, Councilmember Donna Frye announced the findings of a report regarding the amount of harmful pollutants in the old Mission Bay landfill.

Frye commented, “The work of the Mission Bay Technical Advisory Committee was a collaborative effort between my office, local experts, community activists, environmental organizations and the Environmental Services Department. By working together, we have been able to come to a number of conclusions regarding the safety of the old Mission Bay landfill to the public.”

The Mission Bay Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) made major findings including:

- There is no significant discharge of contaminants from the Mission Bay Landfill into Mission Bay.
- With the possible exception of mercury, no evidence of persistent environmental pollution from past industrial waste disposal was found. The possibility that some contaminants remaining in unevaluated locations or that materials still contained within steel drums may be released remains.
- The landfill cap is very thin in portions of the eastern part of the landfill, which increases the chances of future discharge of landfill gases to the surface.

Based upon the findings in the report, the TAC has endorsed a number of recommendations that include additional soil cover in the eastern part of the landfill, limiting future construction to projects with small footprints and depth, converting the area into grassy park land and ongoing monitoring of the site.

The closed Mission Bay landfill was a receptacle for toxic materials for many years. The community has long expressed concern the landfill may be leaking since the landfill is not contained or lined. In August of 2002, Councilmember Frye and the Environmental Services Department began a new investigation into the current conditions at the landfill. The goal of the investigation was to determine any environmental and public health issues surrounding the site. In order to help evaluate and advise the City during this investigation, Councilmember Frye convened the Mission Bay TAC. The oversight committee was made up of technical experts and

community members interested in completing a site assessment and determining appropriate clean up measures for the landfill.

Donna Frye is the City Councilmember for the Sixth Council District of the City of San Diego, which includes the communities of Clairemont, Kearny Mesa, Linda Vista, Mission Bay, Mission Valley and Serra Mesa. She has served on the City Council representing District Six since 2001 and was recently re-elected to a second term on the City Council. She is currently the chair of the City Council's Natural Resources and Culture committee.

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